FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 FEBRUARY 1984

Lebanon

Government's Resignation — President Amin al-Jumayyil, in a 5 February address broadcast by Beirut radio, announced that he has accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's government and is in the process of forming a national unity government that will represent "the various factions, areas, and tendencies." He also invited the participants in the National Dialogue Conference to start a second session in Geneva on 27 February, at which he will submit a reform program and will be willing to discuss "every issue," because "there are no sacred or forbidden things" in the area of reform. Stressing that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement was "never an end but a means" to achieve the withdrawal of foreign forces, Al-Jumayyil said Lebanon should seek a formula to ensure complete withdrawals from its territory. He called for a total cease-fire in the fighting around Beirut, to be arranged by the Security Committee and monitored by an observation committee of retired military personnel.

Al-Jumayyil's speech followed Prime Minister al-Wazzan's announcement, broadcast by the radio, that he was "insisting" on immediate acceptance of his resignation. His resignation came amid continued fighting between the Lebanese Army and its opponents and after Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri's appeal, broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, for all Muslim and nationalist ministers to resign, except the prime minister. Birri also urged Lebanese soldiers to refuse to fight "against the people."

In remarks carried by the same radio, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt stressed that the civil war will continue until the "necessary radical changes occur" and called for a "decisive battle" with the Phalangists. Reaffirming his demand for Al-Jumayyil's resignation, Junblatt emphasized the "impossibility" of cooperating with the president even if the latter decides to abrogate the agreement with Israel, a position which Radio Monte Carlo viewed as indicating differences between Junblatt and his National Salvation Front (NSF) allies, Sulayman Franjiyah and Rashid Karami. An earlier NSF statement broadcast by Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon called for a cease-fire and resumption of dialogue.

Military Situation — Although the Lebanese Army abided by the president's 5 February appeal for a cease-fire on all fronts, gunmen launched a surprise attack on Army positions in the southern suburbs of Beirut early on 6 February, Beirut radio reported. The Army repulsed the attackers after inflicting heavy losses but came under intensive artillery fire from nearby mountains, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In earlier reports on the fighting over the weekend, Beirut radio said the Army lost 22 men dead and 197 wounded while Voice of Lebanon cited estimates that 24 of the Army's Lebanese and Palestinian opponents were killed in the southern suburb with about 40 civilians injured in the shelling. Army Command statements broadcast by Beirut radio held the opposition gunmen responsible for starting the fighting and for failing to observe cease-fire agreements. Palestinian forces participated in the attacks on the Army, the radio claimed, and Syrian artillery shelled residential areas. Artillery exchanges erupted in the Al-Kharrub region, south of the capital, while the Christian town of Zahlah also came under fire, according to the radio.

Broadcasts by the PSP's Voice of the Mountain radio blamed the continuing fighting on the Phalangist and Army forces, and an Amal Movement statement carried by the radio denied the Army Command's claim that government troops had recaptured positions in the southern suburb of Beirut lost to the Amal. The radio also reported that the shelling of Army barracks in Zahlah was stopped on the orders of Amal leader Nabih Birri and it carried a statement by the 1st Infantry Brigade, stationed in the Al-Biqa' valley, rejecting Army Command orders and denouncing the Army's "barbaric shelling of residential areas."

In the south, one IDF soldier was injured in a 5 February ambush south of Jazzin and two more were injured when their patrol was attacked near the Az-Zahrani River on 6 February, according to announcements by the IDF spokesman reported by ITIM and Jerusalem radio.

Israel

Lebanese Situation — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in a 5 February interview reported by Paris radio, said Israel "might well withdraw" its troops from Lebanon before long, but only on the condition that the security of Israeli borders was assured. The prime minister did not link the IDF withdrawal with a withdrawal by the Syrian Army, Jerusalem radio pointed out in a related report.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said Israel is "ready and deployed" in southern Lebanon to defend the citizens of "Galilee" should a change occur in that country, Jerusalem radio reported. He also accused Syria of trying to undermine the Lebanese administration in order to gain control over the country, the radio added.

Domestic Affairs — Arens has called for the establishment of a national unity government, noting that the Likud would then be prepared to give up portfolios to the Alignment, Jerusalem radio reported. In another development, the IDF General Staff headquarters announced the beginning of the public call-up exercise for the reserves on 6 February, Jerusalem radio stated.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq has decided to strike four new Iranian targets "after 8 February" in response to the Iranian prime minister's statement that Iran will attack Iraqi industrial establishments if Iraq carries out its threat to bomb seven Iranian cities, a military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad

Voice of the Masses radio. He warned Iranian citizens to save their lives by leaving the targets — Bandar-e Khomeyni, Masjed Soleyman, Behbehan, and Ramhormoz. Earlier, in a Friday sermon reported by IRNA, President 'Ali Khamene'i announced that if the Iraqis "go insane and carry out their threats," Iran will take "severe revenge" on the "criminals." Iran has decided to bring the war to a victorious conclusion "as soon as possible," the president stressed. Meanwhile, in statements broadcast by Tehran radio, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps' Jerusalem headquarters called on guards throughout the country to prepare for action and present themselves at their local bases between 5 and 8 February. At a 5 February Cabinet meeting reported by the radio, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi stressed the need to speed up the deployment of forces at the battlefronts and to take the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers "seriously."

A 3 February communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio announced that the Iraqi Navy intercepted Iranian boats approaching Iraqi ports, destroying one enemy vessel and capturing another. However, Iranian communiques broadcast by Tehran radio over the weekend did not mention any naval engagement.

Iran

Three "leading" military members of the banned Tudeh Party have been condemned to death, the Supreme Judicial Council spokesman announced in a press statement reported by IRNA. The condemned men may include former Navy Commander Captain Bahram 'Afzali, AFP noted in a related report from Tehran.

Saudi Arabia

During his 4 February meeting with President Francois Mitterrand in Paris, Saudi King Fahd asked France to lead a new European initiative for peace in the Middle East, according to Saudi sources cited by AFP. Commenting on the talks in remarks reported by SPA, the king said he and Mitterrand had discussed all aspects of bilateral relations and the Middle East Situation, in particular Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war, and the Palestinian question. Regarding Saudi policy on Lebanon, King Fahd expressed hope that the security plan will be successful so that security and stability can be established under President al-Jumayyil's leadership.

Earlier, in a commentary on Crown Prince 'Abdallah's call for U.S. troops to withdraw from Lebanon, the Riyadh paper *AL-JAZIRAH* said there is still time for the United States to drop "its indefinite bias in favor of Israel as long as there are Arab leaders willing to tell Washington about its disastrous and catastrophic policy and mistakes in the Middle East," SPA reported. U.S. policies in the region make it difficult for Washington's Arab friends to maintain friendly ties with the U.S. Administration, the paper noted.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Kuwait on 5 February after holding talks in Baghdad with President Saddam Husayn, who stressed Iraq's firm support for the "legitimate leadership" of the PLO and for its independent decisionmaking, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio and INA. Earlier, 'Arafat held talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, INA noted, and he told a press conference that the PLO is in the forefront of the forces that are harmed by the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war. Before his visit to Iraq, the PLO chairman had stopped over in Algeria on his way back to Tunisia after visiting Mali, according to Kuwait radio.

Libya

French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson held talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud during his 2-day visit to Libya, JANA and Paris radio reported. Al-Qadhdhafi, in a press conference reported by Paris radio, stated that he and the French minister discussed the possibility of "reconciling" the Chadian conflict through a "third man" which would be neither the current Chadian president nor the leader of GUNT. Regarding a possible invitation to visit France, Al-Qadhdhafi said he would not make such a visit until the French forces withdrew from Chad. GUNT Chairman Goukouni Oueddei, accompanied by his deputy chairman, also arrived in Tripoli on 4 February, Paris radio announced.

Egypt

A new protocol on military cooperation with Yugoslavia, primarily in the area of joint war industries, was signed in Cairo on 4 February by Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and Yugoslav Federal Secretary for National Defense Branko Mamula, MENA reported.

Tunisia

President Habib Bourguiba has decided to end the state of emergency, Tunis radio reported on 3 February.

Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC justice ministers have agreed to complete a comprehensive program to enact shari'ah law in the GCC countries within 5 years, WAKH reported on 3 February. Bahraini Minister of Justice 'Abdallah ibn Khalid al Khalifah, in a statement cited by WAKH, said the move was agreed by all GCC countries "without opposition or exception."

New 11-Party Opposition Alliance Formed

BK031438 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] A new 11-party alliance was formed on Saturday at a meeting presided over by Ataur Rahman Khan. The alliance has been named "Jatiya Jote" [National Alliance].

The components of the Jatiya Jote are: Bangladesh Jatiya League NAP [National Awami Party] KSP [Krisak Sramik Party] (Azizur Huq), IDL [Islamic Democratic League], Social Democratic Party, Liberal Democratic Party, Bangladesh Islamic Biplobi Parishad, Janogonotantric Dal Nikhil, Bangladesh Muslim League and Hindu Oikya Front.

Three political parties, namely NAP (Nurur Rahman) KSP (Azizul Huq) and Jatiya League (Ataur Rahman) have thus come out of the seven-party alliance.

The Jatiya Jote has placed an eight point demand which includes postponement of upazila [subdistrict] elections, holding of Parliament and presidential elections first, withdrawal of martial law and right to appeal to higher courts by people convicted in martial law courts, effective measures for checking price escalation, publication of report of the commission on mid-February incident, bring the price of agricultural inputs within the purchasing capacity of farmers, and a new wage and freedom of the press for expediting the transition to democracy.

Front Urges Holding of National Elections

BK061019 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] In continuation of dialogue with the political leaders on important national issues, the president and chief martial law administrator [CMLA], Lieutenant General H. M. Ershad, held discussions with Jatiya Oikya Front at Banga Bhavan last night. A 26-member Oikya Front (?delegation headed by) Mr Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed submitted a written statement which urged for immediate holding of national level elections on the basis of suspended constitution. They said it has been their (?long-standing) demand to set up a representative form of government through elections with a view to overcoming the crisis. The Oikya Front leaders said the question of debate as towhich election — the presidential or parliamentary — be held first is aimed at raising confusion and also turning away the eyes from the fundamental (?cause).

During the hour-long discussions, they said differences of opinion on constitutional issues is quite natural and maintained that only an elected and sovereign parliament is competent to give a verdict in this regard. The front also demanded immediate withdrawal of martial law. They wanted free and fair elections through which people's hopes and aspirations will be reflected, and the nation will be able to have a democratic system. The front demanded open politics immediately. They also expressed the need for ensuring fundamental rights of the people and the freedom of press. About upazila [subdistrict] election, they expressed their views that it should be postponed.

The front chairman was aided by other leaders of the parties involved in the alliance. The president was assisted by his special assistant, the ministers for home, establishment, agriculture, education, and the general staff to the CMLA.

The Jatiya Oikya Front consists of 12 parties, and they are: Democratic League, Krishak Sramik Party, Bangladesh Jatiya Dal, Bangladesh Sramik Party, Nizam-i-Islam Party, Justice Party, Republican Party, Nikhil Bangladesh Muslim League, Jatiya Gonotantrik Party, Pragotishil Gonotantrik Shakti, People's League, and Jatiya Biplabi Dal.

Energy Minister Returns From PRC Visit

BK031443 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The deputy chief martial law administrator and minister for energy and mineral resources, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, returned home today after a weeklong visit to China.

During the visit, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud held wideranging talks with his Chinese counterparts, the acting Chinese premier and other officials on matters of bilateral interest.

Meanwhile, a Chinese team of experts will shortly visit Bangladesh to study oil and gas potential of the country as a followup of his China tour.

Soviet Defense Minister's Visit Postponed

BK041240 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The proposed visit of the Soviet defense minister, Marshal Ustinov, to India has been postponed. He was to arrive in New Delhi on Monday. According to an official release in New Delhi, the visit was put off at the request of the Soviet leader.

Anniversary of Soviet-Aided Steel Plant Marked

BK060425 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The steel and mines minister, Mr N.K.P. Salve, has said the growth of the Bhiali steel plant is an example of growing Indo-Soviet friendship. He was speaking at the silver jubilee celebrations of the plant. Mr Salve said friendship between the two countries is based on mutual concern for each other, and we are wedded to the cause of international peace and social justice.

The Soviet deputy prime minister, Mr Dymshits, said the Bhilai steel plant has ushered in an era of industrialization in India and the frutiful cooperation between the two countries. Mr Dymshits, who was also the chief engineer of the plant when it was built 25 years ago, spoke of the high record of the plant in various fields.

The Soviet television program has hailed Indo-Soviet cooperation in economic, science, and culture. [as heard] Reporting this the Soviet news agency TASS said the program — International Panorama — described the Bhilai steel plant as a milestone in Indo-Soviet cooperation.

Messages Exchanged

BK031442 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text]The president, Giani Zail Singh, and the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, have said that the Bhilai steel plant occupies a special place in the development of India-Soviet friendship as it was the first plant to be set up in India with Soviet cooperation. They stated this in a joint message sent to the Soviet president, Mr Andropov, reciprocating the greetings sent by the Soviet Government on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of steel production in Bhilai. The Indian message recalls that the construction of the Bhilai steel plant was one of the first steps taken to build an economically strong and self-reliant nation. Since then, the range and scope of the economic relations between the two countries have grown steadily, making a valued contribution to India's modern industrial infrastructure.

The Soviet Government in its message referred to the multifacted India-Soviet cooperation embracing all major spheres of the life of the people of the two countries. It demonstrates that countries belonging to different social systems can have fruitful and mutually advantageous ties provided they are based upon mutual respect, equality, and noninterference in internal affairs. The Soviet people are deeply satisfied with the fact that their country helps India in consolidating its economic independence, the message adds.

Termination of Visas by Pakistan Protested

BK041259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] India has strongly protested against the decision of the Pakistani authorities to terminate the visas of two Indian Airlines employees in Lahore. The Pakistani ambassador in New Delhi was called to the Foreign Office today by the secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Natwar Singh, who told the ambassador that the termination of visas was a totally unwarranted act and might have serious consquences. It might adversely affect the process of normalization between the two countries and exchange of high-level visits. A similar protest was conveyed to the Pakistani authorities by the Indian ambassador in Islamabad.

The Pakistani authorities alleged that the two Airlines employees had smuggled out two Indian servants without proper documents and in an illegal and clandestine manner. Mr Natwar Singh categorically rejected the false allegation and said they were carrying out their normal functions.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said this might affect the proposed visit of the information and broadcasting minister, Mr H. K. L. Bhagat, to Pakistan.

Minister Puts Off Visit

BK061247 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The proposed visit of the minister for information and broadcasting, Mr H. K. L. Bhagat, to Pakistan has been put off. In reply to a question at a news conference in New Delhi today, Mr Bhagat said the present atmosphere in Pakistan is not conducive to the visit.

PRC Bid To Build Gilgit Runway Termed Illegal

BK041405 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] India has described the proposal to build a new runway at Gilgit Airport in the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir by China as illegal, having a bearing on the country's security. Reacting to the press reports about the proposal, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that neither Pakistan nor China has any locus standi there.

Rao Says U.S. Presence Not Helped Lebanon

BK041015 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has said the presence of American troops in Lebanon has not helped in restoring stability in that country. This has been proved by the fresh flare-up between rival Lebanese factions. In an interview with the United Arab Emirates news agency — WAM — MrRao said as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, India is making all efforts to solve the Palestinian problem.

The external affairs minister expressed concern over the increase of big power presence in the Indian Ocean.

About disarmament, he repeated India's call for liquidation of nuclear weapon aresenals in all parts of the world. He said disarmament cannot be confined to certain areas.

Gandhi Expresses Concern Over Global Tensions

BK061029 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister has expressed her serious concern over global tensions and the growing economic disparity between the developed and developing countries. Mrs Gandhi, who is the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, said that the nonaligned countries have taken a clear stand on the issue during their recent summit meeting in New Delhi.

Mrs Gandhi said this when a book entitled "Nonaligned Movement: New Delhi and Beyond" was presented to her in New Delhi today. The book has been coauthored by two Delhi-based journalists, Mr Pradip Mathur and Mr K.M. Srivastav.

Leaders React to Killing of Diplomat in UK

Gandhi 'Aghast'

BK060904 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister says the entire nation is aghast at the assassination of Mr R.H. Mhatre, assistant commissioner, in the Indian mission at Birmingham in Britain. He had been kidnapped on Friday by an organization styling itself as the Kashmir Liberation Army and was shot dead in the early hours of this morning.

In a message of condolence to the wife of the victim, Mrs Gandhi described the shooting as a cowardly and brutal outrage. She said Mr Mhatre made the supreme sacrifice in the course of duty. My heart goes out to you in your sorrow and I send my heartfelt sympathy to you and your family in the great loss you have suffered, Mrs Gandhi said.

In New Delhi, the murder of Mr Mhatre was discussed at a high-level meeting this morning. Agency reports from Britain say that the body of Mr Mhatre was found with gunshot wounds, in the driveway of a farm in Leicestshire around 0330 hours Indian standard time today. Police declined to say whether anyone had been arrested. A number of people were questioned throughout yesterday, but police failed to track the terrorists. A woman, who is believed to have witnessed the kidnapping, told the police that she had seen a man fitting Mr Mhatre's description being buddled into a car in the area where Mr Mhatre lived with his wife and daughter. Earlier reports had said that Mr Mhatre was kidnapped while walking from his office to a bus stop.

Mr Mhatre's kidnappers had demanded the released of some prisoners now under detention in Jammu and Kashmir. They had also asked for a ransom of 1 million pounds. Originally they had set 0100 hours Indian standard time on Saturday as the deadline for the acceptance of their demands. Later they extended it by 3 hours. Throughout yesterday the British police made repeated appeals to them to establish contact so that Mr Mhatre's release could be negotiated. But the kidnappers did not respond.

An agency report from London says extra security measures for protection of all Indian diplomats in Britain were taken today. Besides a large number in London, India has smaller missions in Birmingham, Liverpool, and Glasgow.

Kashmir Minister: Heinous

BK061303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has expressed shock at the killing of Mr R.H. Mhatre, assistant commissioner in the Indian mission at Birmingham in Britain.

Several other leaders have also condemned the assassination of the Indian diplomat. In Jammu and Kashmir, the chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdhullah described the act as a heinous crime. The former union minister, Mr Mohammad Shafie Qureshi, condemning the act, cautioned the people against antinational elements.

Prime Minister Addresses Meetings in Assam

BK031621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The prime minister has asked the people of Assam to give up the path of agitation as it will do no good either to the state or to the country. Mrs Gandhi was inaugurating an SOS children's village at Bhaka para near Mangaldai in Darrang District for children rendered homeless by last year's disturbances. She said the prolonged agitation has done great harm to the state both socially and economically. The younger generation has been badly affected. The progress of the state has been retarded. She observed that the agitationists and their supports should have visualized the consequences of the continued agitation.

Mrs Gandhi described last year's violent incidents as very unfortunate. She regretted that so many children have lost their homes. A new life free from hatred and fear has to be started in Assam and everyone should make efforts to establish an atmosphere of peace, good will and friendship among all sections of the people. It must be ensured that such incidents do no recur anywhere.

Reminding the people that the country is facing dangers from outside, the prime minister urged them to forget the differences of caste, creed, and religion and remain united.

Earlier, Mrs Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the state permanent capital Pragjyotishpur, about 25 km from Gauhati.

Addressing a large gathering, the prime minister expressed the hope that the new capital of Assam will be a meeting ground for

different sections of the people. She said normalcy has been restored in Assam. Various development projects held up because of disturbed condition, will now be taken up by the administration.

Referring to the foreigners issue, Mrs Gandhi said the tribunals, which will determine the illegal migrants, will now start functioning effectively.

Addressing several public meetings at Nowgong, Mangaldai, and Tinsukia, the prime minister said the world is passing through a dangerous period and there are more pressures on the developing countries. She said India is moving on the path of self-reliance and has undertaken various programs to improve its economy, but there are many countries which do not want to see India progress and have peace.

Speaking to newsmen at Tinsukia, Mrs Gandhi said prices of essential commodities have come down to a certain extent.

Asked about the possibility of talks with the Assam agitation leaders, she said if they come with reasonable proposals, the center will be willing to talk to them.

Mrs Gandhi said the talk of midterm poll is nothing but rumor spead by vested interest.

Meanwhile, reports say the overall situation in Assam remained peaceful throughout the state today despite the 36-hour road blockade called by the agitationists. According to official reports received in Gauhati, no untoward incident has been reported. Public transport services all over the state were maintained.

Returns to Delhi

BK050034 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The prime minister has called upon the people to strengthen peace and work hard for the integrity of the country. Mrs Gandhi was speaking to a large gathering after laying the foundation of Arunachal Pradesh Research University at (Doimuk) near Itanagar today. She said violence only retards the progress. The prime minister said she has tremendous love for the mountains and the people living there.

Earlier, addressing a meeting in the historic town of Sibsagar in Upper Assam, Mrs Gandhi expressed her happiness that the development works, which were halted by the prolonged agitation, have been restarted in the state. She called upon the people to cooperate with the state government in its efforts to speed up the process.

The prime minister has since returned to the capital.

Sikh Leaders Condemn Attack on Newsman

BK040955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, and the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee president, Mr G.S. Tohra, have condemned the attack on Mr Sanjib Gaur, staff correspondent of the *INDIAN EXPRESS* outside the Golden Temple at Amritsar yesterday. In separate statements, they described it as a serious blow to the freedom of the press.

Assam Road Blockade Ends; Situation 'Peaceful'

BK041609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The 36-hour road blockade called by the Assam agitation leaders ended at 1600 this afternoon. Official sources in Gauhati said that the call had virtually no impact in most places in the state and transport services, including rail, air, and roadways were maintained. The overall situation throughout the state remained peaceful. Barring a derailment to Tinsukia mail near (Tihu) station in Karup District due to a suspected sabotage and a bomb explosion on the railway track near Tejpur no other incident is reported from any place in the state.

Assam Chief Pledges Security for All People

BK060428 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Assam chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, has said the state government will make all efforts to provide security to all sections of the people. He said the communal and reactionary elements are trying to create chaos in the state. Mr Saikia said the prolonged violence has taken many lives, rendered lakhs of people homeless, besides causing damage to property.

Addressing the concluding function of the fourth annual session of the All-Assam Minority Students Union in (Hale), the chief minister appealed to all to preserve peace and harmony and cooperate with the government to implement pending development programs.

AFP: Airports in Punjab, Delhi Put on Alert

BK040921 Hong Kong AFP in English 0858 GMT 4 Feb 84

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Feb 4 (AFP) — Airports in Punjab and adjoining states have been put on maximum alert following intelligence reports that Sikh militants were planning to hijack a domestic Indian airliner, federal sources said today.

The alert came four days before the start of a state-wide strike called by the main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, to press their demands for religious concessions and greater political autonomy for Punjab State.

The sources also confirmed a local news agency report that the All-India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) — a militant organisation supporting the Akali Dal campaign — was planning to hijack an Indian Airlines aircraft to a third country.

They said that in addition to Punjab, special anti-hijacking precautions had been put into effect in Kashmir, New Delhi, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

Since the start of the Sikh campaign nearly two years ago, militants have twice hijacked Indian Airlines planes. One of the planes was flown to Pakistan, while the second was refused permission to land by Pakistani authorities.

The Federal Aviation Ministry, which controls 85 airports in the country, has sent circulars to state governments directing them to maintain maximum alert status at their airports, the sources said.

"This is not part of the routine exercise, but something special ... We have reason to believe that attempts to hijack aircrafts will be made," said a senior federal official who asked not to be named.

Meanwhile, the Punjab administration was gearing itself to face Wednesday's planned strike, which some political analysts said could turn violent.

Additional para-military troops were being sent from adjoining states to guard vital government installations, railway lines and riot-prone areas of the predominantly Sikh state.

Punjab Governor Told To Curb Strike Violence
BK040949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The center has advised the Punjab Government to take necessary steps to ensure safety of life and protection to public and private property during the proposed Punjab bundh [strike] on the 8th of this month. The bundh call has been given by the Akali Dal.

The Governor, Mr B.D. Pande, had talks on the law and order situation in the state with the prime minister and senior officials. He is understood to have been told that antisocial elements resorting to violence should be dealt with sternly.

Home Minister Sethi on Punjab Situation
BK041415 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The home minister has said that the center is in favor of a negotiated settlement of the Punjab issue. Mr Sethi told newsmen in Indore that there is no legal hurdle in the police entry tothe Golden Temple complex, but the government wants to respect the religious sentiments of the Sikhs.

He refuted the allegation that his party is deliberately trying to delay the solution of the Punjab tangle due to political reasons.

Tripura Chief Minister on State Situation
BK040959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The Tripura chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakraborty, said extremists have infiltrated into the state from outside. He told newsmen in Calcutta that they are trying to create tension in view of the coming panchayat elections in the state.

The Tripura Pradesh [state] Congress-I committee has alleged that the state government has failed to save human lives and property. In a telegram to the president, Giani Zail Singh, it has demanded imposition of president's rule in the state.

Spokesman Confirms Indians' Visas Terminated

BK041545 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Commenting on a report broadcast by All-India Radio this evening, a Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad confirmed that the visas of two Indian Airlines employees have been terminated. The spokesman said there was enough evidence to prove that these people were involved in the illegal and clandestine departure of the two Indian nationals who were said to be domestic servants of an Indian diplomat in Islamabad.

The spokesman added that violation of Pakistani law in this manner is unacceptable. The Government of Pakistan hopes that the airlines' employees will restrict themselves only to airline activities for the normalization and promotion of good-neighborly relations between the two countries, the spokesman observed.

AFP: Spokesman Denies Arrests in Lahore Shooting

BK051732 Hong Kong AFP in English 1718 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 5 (AFP) — The government today denied persistent reports that a number of army officers were arrested for subversive activities in the eastern city of Lahore over the last three weeks.

The reports, which are being given credence by the diplomatic community here, were that anywhere between 20 and 150 mostly junior officers were arrested after an arms seizure in Lahore on January 2.

The government newspaper *PAKISTAN TIMES* reported a week later that the seizure had involved a shootout in which two persons were killed and a third was injured in a clash between security forces and alleged conspirators. "Foreign brand arms were to be used by some politically motivated people for enormous subversion," the paper said.

The government had declined to comment on the subsequent reports of arrests of military officers.

But today government spokesman Yunus Sethi said no officer had been arrested after the shooting in Lahore. He said an investigation of the matter was continuing.

Diplomats here remained skeptical of the denial, and rumors of an attempted coup are still circulating.

Some of the rumors linked the possible coup attempt to opposition figure Mustapha Khar, a governor of Punjab under former President Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. Mr Khar now lives in London.

Others told of a rebellion planned by junior officers while President Mohammad Ziaul Haq was attending the Islamic summit in Casablanca last month, or of an assassination attempt planned for General Zia's next trip to Lahore.

In its report, the *PAKISTAN TIMES* said the conspirators were "operating in Pakistan with the blessings of the intelligence agencies of a neighboring country."

Last Saturday, Pakistan expelled two Indians working for Indian Airlines, saying they had helped two Pakistanis working for an Indian diplomat to leave the country. Sources here said the two fugitives were suspected spies.

Zia Comments on Possibility of Elections This Year

BK041721 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said there is a possibility that one of the two major elections in the country is held toward the end of this year. He was talking to newsmen at Karachi airport on his arrival from Islamabad on a short visit this evening. The president said he abides by the commitment to complete the whole process of elections by March next year.

In reply to a question, he said it has not yet been decided how much time should be given for the election campaign, but it would be the shortest possible campaign because, he said, we cannot afford disturbances in the name of electioneering.

Referring to the bombing of Pakistani territory by Karmal regime planes, the president said the incident was deplorable as it was an act of aggression which resulted in the loss of so many innocent lives. He said Pakistan has protested over this to the Kabul regime, and has brought it to the notice of other nations.

Further Remarks

BK051614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq inaugurated the sixth leather and leather goods exhibition in Karachi today. Talking to newsmen at the exhibition, the president said questions on whether elections will be held on a party or nonparty basis or when they will be held have not yet been decided. He said the issue will be carefully examined before any decision is made. He said the issues of granting permission to political parties to take part in the elections or holding elections on a nonparty basis have both advantages and shortcomings. He said the announcement of an election schedule will also be made at the appropriate time. However, they will be completed anyway by March next year according to schedule.

In reply to a question on the release of political detainees, the president said that a formula has been worked out in this regard and the provincial governments are implementing it.

Secretary Meets PRC Public Security Official

BK060421 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Chinese deputy minister for public security (Altao Kasixhou), now in Pakistan, has met with the information and broadcasting secretary in Islamabad. They discussed arrangements for transmitting reports on the Chinese president's visit to Pakistan next month. The Chinese deputy minister later visited Pakistan ordnance factories at Wah.

Three Tudeh Party Members Receive Death Sentences

LD042154 Tehran IRNA in English 1904 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, Irna — The Supreme Judicial Council has approved death sentences for three leading military members of the Tudeh Party, today's evening papers reported.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'e, the spokesman of the council, told reporters in Shiraz Thursday that sentences demanded by the military tribunal of the Islamic Revolution against ten other military military members are being studied.

The daily *ETTELA'AT* quoted the spokesman as saying that some had also been sentenced to prison terms and the verdicts against all 13 will be announced in the near future.

Sentences against 87 military members of the party were annouced last month. Six received life sentences and the rest from 30 years to less than a year. Four were released.

Meanwhile Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'e also said that the trial of civilian members of the defunct Tudeh Party will begin at Tehran's Evin Prison soon.

Ministry Condemns Attacks on Lebanese Muslims

LD041953 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has condemned the savage attacks by Phalangist forces and supporters of Amin al-Jumayyil on the Muslim people living in the southern regions of Beirut and the drowning of the struggling Muslim people of these regions in their own blood. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said: The recent attacks by the Lebanese Army against the Muslims living in southern regions of Beirut on the baseless pretext of regaining a few military positions, which so far have resulted in the martyrdom of dozens of Muslims of this region, reveal a doomed plot hatched by America and Zionism to start a new crusade against Muslims and the deprived people of Lebanon.

Referring to the weakness and feebleness of the Lebanese Army when the Zionist forces occupied the country and the acceptance of the interfering Multinational Forces by the Lebanese regime, he said: The Lebanese Government which owes its coming to power to the tragic conditions resulting from the occupation of Lebanon by Zionist forces sees its survival in keeping the U.S. Marines and other interfering Western forces stationed in Beirut. Therefore, to save itself from the heroic moves of the Muslim and deprived people of Lebanon, it has extended a begging hand toward the interfering Multinational Forces and is trying to crush the resistance of the Muslims in Beirut with their help.

Finally, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, condemning these attacks, stressed the need for an all-encompassing confrontation by the world of Islam against this new plot and announced: Despite the lack of interest shown by many Islamic countries toward the dangerous development in Lebanon and considering the role played by some of them in implementing the plots of the United States and Israel in the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran stands alongside the Muslims and the deprived people of Lebanon and, confident about the victory of the Muslim revolutionaries of Lebanon, will support them to the end.

Khomeyni Meets With Lebanese Clergyman 5 February

GF051752 Tehran IRNA in English 1719 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — Sa'id Muhammad Husayn Fadallah, a member of Lebanese ulema, met with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni, here today. Shaykh Fadallah is one of the guests attending the Ten Days of the Dawn celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

President Warns Iraq of 'Severe Revenge'

LD031100 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 3, IRNA — The Islamic Republic will firmly retaliate against any future Iraqi attack against Iranian civilian areas, President 'Ali Khamene'i said today.

Speaking in this week's Friday prayers, the president denied Iraqi allegations that Iran had attacked Iraqi towns and said they were lies in order to justify threats of attacking Iranian cities.

"I firmly announce in this holy place of Friday prayers that if the Iraqis go insane and carry out their threats, this time our nation will take severe revenge from the criminals," he said.

The president also said that the Islamic Republic had reached the conclusion that it should bring the war to a victorious end "as soon as possible" and called on the people to be prepared to "speak their last words," to the "decaying Iraqi regime."

The president's strong words followed last night's warnings by Prime Minister Musavi that the Islamic Republic would attack Iraqi economic centres if Iranian civilian areas were attacked. Mr Musavi said if Iraqi threats were realised, foreign and Iraqi workers should stay away from economic installations.

Iranian leaders had previously warned that frequent Iraqi attacks against civilians in Iran would not be tolerated for ever.

President Khamene'i said the Islamic Republic had not fired even one artillery shell on Iraqi cities ever since the Iraqi aggression 40 months ago because the Islamic Republic was not fighting the Iraqi Muslim people but rather it was fighting the Iraqi regime.

"During these 40 months, our people have upheld principles of morality in their fight. We did not agree to respond to crimes other than to the criminal. This nation cannot sit back and allow so many aggressions... with the support of the big powers and with the sneer of the international [word indistinct]," the president said.

"We will bring an end to this war with complete victory despite the desire of the United States, and the firm will and determination of this nation will guarantee our victory."

Speaking on achievements resulting from the Islamic revolution after five years, President Khamene'i said the people of Iran had proven that Islam had not been abolished in the world and as a school of thought it could solve problems of a society.

"The fact that a nation could raise its head and preserve a revolution after five wars is another accomplishment of this revolution. The people came to recognise they could revolt independent of the East and West," he said.

He also said the Islamic revolution had revived the issue of Palestine and would not let it be forgotten despite some Arab rulers who wanted to shut themselves off the whole issue.

"Palestine should be returned to the fold of Islamic countries and we will continue our efforts in this direction, [words indistinct] our blows upon the colonialists."

Meanwhile, President Khamene'i condemned the military presence of the United States and other powers in the Middle East region. He said their presence was illegal and against the will of the people of the region, aimed at threatening progressive and anti-arrogance" (?revolutions).

The Islamic Republic regarded U.S. interests in the region as illegitimate and will "struggle against them with all its strength."

The rulers of the region, he added, were not considering the interests of their people but rather that of the United States. But he said "The people have awakened and the Islamic revolution has tolled the bells against the interests of the (super) powers."

"We are proud of being opposed to the arrogant power of the U.S. and the people are aware of this and recognise it," the president said.

President Khamene'i spoke about the next Majlis elections due in a few months time and referred to it as the greatest social responsibility of the people. The people, he said, should exercise their efforts in choosing candidates who could guarantee the future of Islam.

Further Report

LD031434 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpts] On the 3d day of 10 Days of the Dawn of the victory of the glorious Islamic Revolution of Iran, millions of risen and Muslim people of our homeland, chanting "God is great" and "There is no god but Allah," today rushed to the venues of the great and enemy-crushing ceremonies of the Friday prayers throughout the country so that they could reaffirm their blood pledge with the honorable martyrs of the Islamic Revolution.

Along with other God-seeking compatriots, crowds of the hezbollahi of Tehran, who are always present on the scene, with their extensive presence in the assembly center of the lovers of God at Tehran University, together with a group of Iranian brothers and sisters liberated from the captivity of the Zionist Iraqi regime and the foreign guests of the 10 Days of Dawn, held the ceremonies of the glorious Friday prayers today under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i said: Through the vigilance it created among the nation, our revolution managed to keep world arrogance, and particularly America, busy on several fronts. America stood in the international arena as a champion and had joined countries from the most westernly region in Europe to the furthest point in Asia, from NATO to CENTO and from CENTO to SEATO, and had created an iron rank against its enemies, but our revolution broke this chain.

I hereby declare that, contrary to America's wish, our combatants will finish the war with full victory; I will also reaffirm that we are not making any irrational threats and that, as we have said many times, we do not want even an inch of Iraqi territory.

Continuing the second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i emphasized the fact that the combatants of Islamic Iran will crush and put in his place the enemy, whoever he may be, saying:

[Begin recording] It is sad that the rulers of the imposed Baghdad regime have not drawn any lesson from their past experiences. They have not realized that threats, bullying, and thuggery cannot make a nation change its mind about demanding its just rights— that they cannot impose thuggery on a nation. They have once again broadcast that in the next few days they will hit several Iranian cities with missiles and bombs. To make this threat justifiable and to excuse their crimes in the eyes of the world nations, they have made a false claim— that the Iranians have attacked some cities or other — they mentioned several cities — with bombs and artillery fire. They are lying. Basra is in range of our fire. Since the first day, we have not fired a shell at Basra. Apart from Basra, several other small and large Iraqi towns are within the range of our artillery.

We have not wanted to take revenge for the crimes committed by Saddam's mercenaries against our people and cities from the innocent people in the cities; we have no war against the people of Basra; we have no war against the people of Amara; we have no war against the people of Sulaymaniyah; the people of Iraq are our long-term supporters, our sympathizers. We are fighting against the regime that has imposed itself on the people of Iraq; therefore, it is natural that we have not attacked cities or villages by artillery fire. This is a false and untrue claim with which Saddam wants to justify his crimes. Of course, in response to this false claim, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued its decisive and strongly-worded statement. We have told the entire world that this claim is a lie. We hereby announce to those who have been affected by the false peace-seeking claims of the Baghdad regime that this is a warmongering regime.

They can come and see the cities to make sure that we have not committed any aggression against these cities. But I decisively declare from this holy stand of Friday prayers that if the Iraqis go mad and carry out the threat they have made, our nation will this time severely retaliate against the criminals. We are reaching the conclusion that we must deal a decisive and final blow at this decaying body as soon as possible.

The Iranian nation must be prepared; our beloved youths must be prepared; the forces that have prepared themselves for the liberation of Jerusalem must be prepared to go to the battlefronts. I ask the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps to utilize the forces that have been enlisted for the liberation of Jerusalem and to dispatch them to the fronts. Our Islamic combative forces, the army and the Corps, must say their last word to the oppressive and bullying aggressors who do not understand any logic.

In the course of the 40 months of the war, our nation has fought on ethical principles. We have been unwilling to give any response to the crime except to the criminal himself. This nation cannot sit back and bear to see a bunch of murderers who are dominating the destiny of the oppressed Iraqi nation commit so many crimes and aggressions with the support of the big powers and with the approval of international organizations and circles. The Iranian nation will certainly be resolute in this resolute decision and, with God's blessing, will be successful and victorious.

I once again remind the governments in this egion who support Saddam: We have not wanted to deal with our neighbors in the Persian Gulf with hostility, enmity, and confrontation. In the past few years, we have shown that we have good intentions. But I should say, in case Saddam's crimes continue, we will decisively hold them responsible for the crimes committed by Saddam against the Iranian nation and the crimes which will be committed.

We are a great nation— a nation with a long history, clear records, and rich culture, a proud nation with the necessary Islamic and national pride. We do not want to despise neighboring governments, but at the same time we do not want this nation's honor and magnanimity to be insulted. The Iranian nation will always preserve its situation and position as a progressive, vanguard, and revolutionary nation. I hope the firm intention and determination of this great nation will save other nations and countries.[end recording]

Government Response to Iraqi 'Threats' Supported
LD042236 Tehran IRNA in English 1918 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA — Various revolutionary institutions, government organisations and personalities in separate messages cabled to Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, pledged their strong support for his firm response to the threats of the Iraqi regime that it would bombard several Iranian cities.

The organisations and personalities in their messages announced their full readiness to respond to the threats of the Iraqi regime and stressed that such threats would further heighten solidarity and unity of the Iranian people against their enemy.

The Iraqi regime which has been unable to face the Islamic forces in the battle fields, in a recent statement has announced that it would launch attacks against several Iranian cities.

Prime Minister Musavi in response to these threats said Friday that if they continued, all industrial centers of Iraq would be subjected to Iranian attacks. Therefore, he called on all Iraqi and foreign workers in those centers to evacuate those places adding that such threats further revealed the degree of despair of the Iraqi ruler.

In a similar reaction, President 'Ali Khamene'i speaking in Tehran's Friday prayers congregation, made it clear that the Islamic Republic of Iran would fiercely retaliate any future Iraqi attacks against Iranian civilian areas. He said that if the Iraqis went so berserk as to carry out their threats, people of Iran would take severe revenge.

Ever since the outbreak of the Iraqi imposed war in Sept. 80, the Iraqi regime has made hitting civilian areas it practice. In the course of the forty-month-old war, the Iraqi regime has time and again launched missile and air attacks against the non-military areas and not even sparing schools, hospitals and mosques which under all internationally recognised regulations are considered immune zones.

Repeated attacks of the Iraqis on civilian areas of Iran, have claimed lives of some 4,000 and resulted in injury of another 17,000. In an attack on the Iranian southern city of Behbehan last Oct. which hit a school the Iraqi forces took the lives of over 70 students who were attending classes.

However, despite such atrocities of the Iraqi forces and the Iraqi regime which has not winced at commiting any crime against the Iranian people, the Iranian forces due to their strong faith in God and Islam and adhering to Islamic principles, have never retaliated for the Iraqi attacks by attacking Iraq's civilian areas.

More Pledges of Support
LD052350 Tehran IRNA in English 1947 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — Various groups, organisations and personalities of the country continue to pledge their support for the (?firm) statement of Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in which he said if the Iraqi regime continued its threats of bombarding various Iranian cities, the Iranian forces would attack industrial centers inside Iraq in retaliation.

The theologians of the Qom theological center, in a message cabled to the prime minister [word indistinct] that the recent threat of the Iraqi regime was a sign of its despair and the Iraqi ruler resorted to such propaganda to save itself. It further added that the only solution was to punish the aggressor, make him to pay war reparations and act in accordance with the principles of divine justice

Meanwhile, a demonstration was held in the western city of Ilam during which the people reiterated that the war should be continued until the final victory of the Islamic forces. They also [word indistinct] that the vain threats of the Iraqi ruler would not weaken the will of the Iranian people and of those in the war zones in particular. Ilam is one of the cities that the Iraqi regime has threatened with bombardment. The demonstrators who also lauded the prime minister for having given a firm reply to the Iraqi threats, said that no action would weaken their will in fighting off the aggressors.

A similar demonstration was held in Ahvaz today.

Prime Minister Musavi today once again said that the Iranian forces would courageously counter any new Iraqi act of aggression. Musavi who was speaking after a cabinet session added that the support of the Iranian people at large including the ulema for the relentless battle of the Islamic forces against the Iraqi aggressors, indicated their determination to put an end to the Iraqi Ba'thist rule.

Furthermore, in the open session of the Majlis here today several Majlis deputies stressed that Saddam's threats revealed the weakness of the Iraqi regime in dealing with the Iranian forces in the battlefields. They also called on the Supreme Defence Council to take severe measures against the Iraqi forces.

Friday Imams Council Statement

LD051918 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] The Central Council of Friday Imams has announced its support for the decisive statement made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding a severe response to be given to the threats made by the aggressive enemy. It has asked the employees and workers at industrial and economic centers of Iraq to leave these places. The text of the statement is:

In His exalted name. On the eve of the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution led by his great eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, may his shadow lengthen, the disintegrating regime of Iraq has announced that it will launch a missile attack or an air raid against several Iranian towns. This threat is made at a time when the assistant secretary of state of the United States has visited Iraq and has encouraged and persuaded Saddam to expand his evil and aggressive policies. The vigilant consciences of the world have clearly realized that the Muslim nation of Iran, during the imposed war, has adhered to principles of ethics and although a number of Iraqi towns are within the range of the artillery units of the brave men of Islam, not even one bullet has been fired at them. But today, the people of Iran can no longer sit and tolerate such degree of oppression and aggression imposed by a bunch of usurpers ruling over the fate of the oppressed people of Iraq and enjoying the backing of the superpowers and the supportive smile of international associations and world organizations. We are determined to put an end to the war as soon as possible and will continue our Islamic (?struggle) with determination until the aggressor is completely pushed out of our Islamic homeland, reparations for war damage have been paid,and the aggressor has been punished.

The Central Council of Friday Imams, while expressing unreserved support for the rightful stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran Government, demands that the first traitorous act of the enemy be met by a crushing blow to the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and that the worn out foundations of the palace dwellers of Baghdad be destroyed by bombing the economic and industrial centers of Iraq.

We ask all the employees and workers at these centers to leave these places and refrain from going near them.

[Signed] Central Council of Friday Imams, 5 February 1984

Organizations Sent Memoranda on Iraqi Attacks

LD031753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Following the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's recent threat to hit residential and civilian targets inside Iranian territory, our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated that such threats would not weaken the Islamic nation of Iran's firm determation to achieve final victory against the Saddamist blasphemy and sent several memoranda to Mr Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general; Mr Habib Chatti, chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization; Mr Narasimha Rao, head of the nonaligned foreign ministers meeting; and Mr Alexander Hay, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, announcing that any attack on civilians and residential areas is contrary to all international regulations and the fourth agreement of the Geneva Convention.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has condemned these inhumane deeds by Iraq in the month of Azar 1362 [22 November to 21 December 1983] and a report by UN experts in the month of Khordad 1362 [22 May to 21 June 1983] verifies the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's crimes against the Muslim nation of Iran.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs recalled the international organisations' responsibilities and asked them to condemn these inhumane deeds and threats by the Iraqi regime and called upon them to distribute the text of the memoranda among their members as evidence.

Cabinet Studies Battlefronts Situation

LD051152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi this morning presided over a Cabinet meeting which studied latest developments on the various battlefronts where good is fighting evil. During the meeting, the prime minister emphasized that the support given by the people and the clergy to our combatants' relentless battle against the enemy is indicative of the total readiness of the Muslim Iranian nation to settle the fate of the infidel Baghdad rulers.

Reports received from the region and the rest of the world show that the new threats made by the 'Aflaqist Ba'thist regime are based on direct incitements made by America and its allies and that these new threats are being made following visits to the region by American and British officials. However, we are prepared to respond to these new threats, for our people will not tolerate Saddam's presence in the region. Our faithful and valiant forces are prepared to deliver a crushing response to any new crimes by Saddam.

The prime minister then added: It is imperative to increase the pace of dispatching our popular forces to the battlefronts. Government institutions and various foundations must be fully prepared to give assistance to our self-sacrificing people and beloved combatants. Moreover, the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers must be taken seriously by all organizations. The Cabinet also

discussed the need to organize the flood of volunteers, and it was decided to make the necessary arrangements.

The head of the plan and budget organization and minister of state, Banki, later briefed the Cabinet on his visit to the various battlefronts; he conveyed a message to the Cabinet from the Islamic combatants.

Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Namazi reported to the Cabinet on his visit to Yugoslavia and his meeting with officials of that country. He termed the outcome of his meetings as fruitful.

At the conclusion of the meeting, proposals by a number of government ministries were discussed and approved.

Musavi Comments Cited

LD052339 Tehran IRNA in English 1937 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — Premier of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi today said the support of the people and the ulema for the relentless battle of the Muslim combatants against enemies of their homeland was indicative of the Muslim ummah's readiness to put an end to the infamous rule of the Baghdad regime.

Musavi who was speaking after the Cabinet session said that reports [word indistinct] here from the region and the rest of the world showed that recent threats by the Iraqi regime were made (?with direct) U.S. instigation and the provocative gestures (?followed) visits made by American and [word indistinct] officials to the regions.

But, added the premier, the Muslim nation of Iran had prepared itself for any [words indistinct] would respond to it accordingly and that the Muslim ummah would no longer tolerate Saddam in the region.

He said the faithful (?and courageous) forces of the Islamic Republic were ready to counter any new crimes committed by Saddam with a crushing attack.

President Meets With Military Commanders

GF051756 Tehran IRNA in English 1721 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — In a meeting between President Khamene'i and the commanders of the Islamic Republic's Armed forces today the president said measures have been taken in order to respond to Iraqi attacks.

Steps are underway to confront any aggressive action by this regime (Iraq) and the necessary response will be given to the aggressors, President Khamene'i said.

The president also stressed that there was a necessity to respond to the emotions and expectations of Muslim people of Iran especially during the Ten-Day Dawn ceremonies, marking the anniversary of the Islamic revolution.

The president, who is also the chairman of the Supreme Defence Council, added that the Iraqi threats are nothing new and the Iraqi regime continuously attacked Iranian cities during the past 40 months of war.

During the meeting the commanders briefed the president on the respective spheres of their responsibilities and highly important military matters were discussed. The president also issued several orders.

Further Report

LD051805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] The chief of the Joint Staff and commanders of the three forces of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and their deputies this morning met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and head of the Supreme Defense Council. At this session, after reports submitted by each of the commanders about the country's border waterways, the joint coastal-sea headquarters, formation of the Quds reserve battalions, and other important military issues were discussed and reviewed. The head of the Supreme Defense Council gave the necessary guidelines on the points raised.

At this meeting, the head of the Supreme Defense Council made a speech in which he referred to the recent threats made by the aggressive regime of Iraq: These threats are not new and during the 40 months of the imposed war our defenseless towns have repeatedly been bombed by these lackeys of the United States. The president emphasized: In response to each aggressive act by the Iraqi regime, because of the measures we have taken, we will be able to act accordingly.

The head of the Supreme Defense Council, pointing to the general enthusiasm and emotion shown by the people because of the sensitive and destiny-making 10 Days of Dawn, stressed the importance of the efforts made by the Armed Forces and the need to respond to the emotions and expectations of the Muslim people of our country.

Defense Minister Checks Bushehr Battle Readiness

GF041712 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel Salimi this morning arrived in Bushehr along with heads of planning and programming and directors of industries of the Defense Ministry. He was received at the airport by Mr Zamninian, governor general of Bushehr; commanders of the local air and naval bases; the commander of the permanent Gendarmerie brigade at Bushehr; and certain other officials of the province.

According to the Central News Unit, the defense minister immediately left to visit the ships of the 2nd Naval Group in Bushehr and inspected the battle readiness of the naval units and their personnel.

Comments on Gulf Security

GF060810 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel Salimi, who was visiting Bushehr yesterday, inspected the ships in Naval Sector No 2 at Bushehr. Prior to his departure, he gave an interview to a correspondent of the Central News Unit.

The defense minister said he came to Bushehr to inspect the forces and the military capabilities of the region and the present situation in the Persian Gulf. He said that he inspected the latest naval project launched by the brothers engaged in military and technical research for his ministry. He said that with the completion of this project Iranian naval strength will be increased in the region.

In connection with the readiness of the ships in Bushehr and the readiness of the personnel, Colonel Salimi said the personnel were completely ready and our fighting ships are at the required level of readiness. The defense minister, while referring to naval traffic in the Persian Gulf and the propaganda connected with enemy remarks, said that others may say what they like but we will do what we have to do. The Islamic Republic has on several occasions stated its policy regarding the security of the Persian Gulf waters, the Omani waters, and the need for complete security in the Hormuz Strait which is the economic artery of the area. We have, he said, so far completely maintained the security of the Persian Gulf.

In conclusion, he said: We are dutybound under the announced policy of the Islamic Republic in the Persian Gulf, the Oman Sea, and the life artery of the Hormuz Strait to follow what we have already declared. The Defense Ministry is one of the organs that implements this policy. To implement this policy, we have ample resources which we intend to employ. And whenever the Islamic Republic decides that the Persian Gulf is insecure, then we will take steps to close Hormuz Strait.

The defense minister left Bushehr yesterday afternoon for Tehran.

IRNA Account

LD051034 Tehran IRNA in English 0926 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Bushehr, Feb. 4, IRNA — Defence Minister Colonel Mohammad Salimi said today that the Islamic Republic had so far guarded the security of the Persian Gulf region but added that the Islamic Republic would make the Persian Gulf insecure whenever necessary.

Speaking after an inspection tour of combat units here, the defence minister said the Islamic Republic had many times stated its policy in preserving the security of the Persian Gulf region but added that Iran had the necessary equipment and its combatant forces were capable of making the Strait of Hormuz insecure whenever the Islamic Republic deemed it necessary. Colonel Salimi also said the presence of the superpowers in the region would serve to make the Persian Gulf insecure. The defence minister returned to Tehran this evening.

Chief of Joint Staff Promises Retaliation

LD061023 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb, 6, IRNA — Chief of the Joint Staff General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad Sunday replied to Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn's threats on bombing a number of Iranian residential areas, stressing that Iran would destroy all industrial establishment and centres of the Iraqi regime.

General Zahirnezhad furthermore notified Saddam's masters that no doubt they would not come out of the scene safely.

He said that Saddam was calling himself the leader of a Muslim country on one hand but was threatening another Muslim nation with arms manufactured by the oppressors on the other.

Calling Saddam Husayn a "disgrace" for the Arab world, General Zahirnezhad reiterated President Khamene'i and Prime Minister Musavi's statements on the recent Iraqi threats, that in case of the slightest movement from the Iraqi regime for the shelling of Iranian cities, the Islamic Republic would destroy all Iraqi industrial centres and installations.

He referred to crimes comitted by superpowers and international imperialism such as the atomic bombing of Nakasaki and Hiroshima resulting in the massacre of innocent people, as well as plots hatched by the superpowers of the East and the West against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Criticising international organisations for their deceitful peace slogans, General Zahirnezhad noted that these (international) bodies which constantly decry the abuse of human rights, now that Western and Eastern imperialism had provided their subservients with arms to destroy Iranian cities and massacre innocent children and women, had hushed up.

He warned Saddam and his U.S. and Soviet supporters not to imagine that shelling of Iranian cities with imperialist-made missiles, and mass killing of Iranians would make the Islamic Republic surrender.

Stressing that the number of Iraq's POWs in Iran was two times more than the armed forces of some countries, General Zahirnezhad emphasised that Islam would be victorious and Saddam would be defeated.

Montazeri Urges Air Force To Guard Country, Islam

LD041647 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Yesterday, a large group, including commanders and political-ideological officials of the Air Force and the traffic police, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri.

In connection with the enemy's weak morale, his eminence said: We know that our Air Force is faced with a shortage of equipment, but it has faith. Although the enemy has more equipment, his morale is extraordinarily weak.

In connection with the enemy's desperate attacks on our country's residential areas, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: Because the enemy does not rely on God and is not virtuous, he launches desperate bombing attacks on our cities, old men, women,and children. If we did not have any faith and did not fight for God, we could bomb Baghdad and Basra, but our war is for God's satisfaction. God has never allowed us to carry out such a measure.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized: We are all mortal. How good it will be if our death is honorable and for God's sake. When man is martyred for God's sake, he is not afraid of death. The secret of the success of the Muslims in the early Islamic era and that of our Muslim nation during the revolution was the same concept. Therefore, while I advise our combative forces to guard their beloved lives as much as possible; if there was danger somewhere and the opportunity of martyrdom came up, we would be proud to have finished the doomed path in the best way possible and to have reached God and the great salvation.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri further said: Today both the East and the West consider Islam to be a great barrier to their interests and have united to crush the Islamic Revolution. It is time our combative forces, particularly our brave Air Force, foil the enemy attacks, guard Islam and the beloved Islamic country, and act as the vanguard on the front line in defending the holy sanctity of Islam and the revolution; just as they did during the revolution. May God help all our combatants and give long life to the great leader of the revolution.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,624

LD031826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,624 of Joint Staff of Armed forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Exchanges of fire and limited clashes continued in the northwestern operational sector yesterday and on various fronts of this region. The combatants of Islam, by continuous observation and by dispatching patrol groups, monitored enemy movements. Thanks to the fire of our combatants on Saddamist positions and supply axes in this sector, the enemy suffered losses and casualties. Several enemy slit trenches and foxholes and one truck carrying Iraqi troops were destroyed in the region on the opposite side of the Hajj 'Umran operational theater. In the region opposite Marivan, one motor vehicle lot and one fuel storage tank of the Saddamist forces were set ablaze. Our forces fire also halted movements of the enemy troops and vehicles in the vicinity of Chuman Mustafa.

Exchanges of heavy artillery fire continued in the western operational sector and the fire of our warriors on infantry troops, observers, positions, and fortifications of the Saddamist forces halted enemy movements and activities.

Sporadic exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued in the southern operational sector yesterday, being more intense in the Zeyd region. On various fronts of the southern operational sector, while maintaining their initiative and full superiority, our combatants opened timely fire on positions and personnel of the Iraqi forces, inflicting some losses and casualties on the enemy.

Thanks to the fire of our forces in the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational sector yesterday, 11 slit trenches, foxholes, and observation posts of the aggressors were destroyed on the western bank of the Arvand Rud and 20 Saddamists were killed. The city of Abadan was the target of the enemy's long-range artillery fire yesterday. As a result, three houses and one shop were damaged.

Communique No 1,625

LD041735 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,625 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, fighting has continued along all northwestern borders of the country, mostly in the operational regions of Marivan and Panjwin, between the victorious combatants of Islam and the Iraqi forces with exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire. The combatants of Islam have carried out intensive artillery and mortar fire on enemy positions and stations, have set fire to enemy positions, have destroyed a motor pool, and have completely destroyed a fuel tank belonging to the enemy forces. A number of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded on this front.

On the western fronts, exchange of fire continued and our forces persisted in fortifying their defensive positions, carried out defensive operations, dispatched patrol groups, monitored enemy movements, and inflicted casualties and damage on Iraqi forces. A munitions depot belonging to the Saddamists was set on fire and destroyed.

On one of the border fronts of Ilam, a patrol group dispatched by the enemy was identified and fired on by our combatants. As a result, the patrol group was forced to flee, having suffered a number of casualties.

On the southern fronts, sporadic exchanges of fire between our forces and the enemy continued. On these fronts, the powerful combatants of Islam, simultaneous with their defensive measures, repelled and foiled enemy activities and engineering operations and silenced their fire. The casualties and damage sustained by the enemy on these fronts include the destruction of a number of their foxholes and trenches and the death of more than 20 Iraqi soldiers. An enemy patrol group that attempted to advance and get closer to the defensive positions of our forces came under the fire of the combatants of Islam; their activities were foiled and they were forced to flee.

In the exchanges of fire between our forces and the enemy along both sides of the Arvand Rud, the Gendarmerie warriors returned the enemy fire by opening fire on enemy positions and entrenchments, silenced enemy fire, halted their engineering activities, destroyed more than five machine gun emplacements and observation posts, and killed or wounded a number of enemy

soldiers. During the past 24 hours, the city of Abadan came under sporadic heavy arms fire; several houses were damaged.

Communique No 1,626

LD051717 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,626 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the northwestern border fronts. Our forces brought enemy defense positions, tank and artillery emplacements, and supply axes under fire, disrupted enemy infantry and motorized movements, and silenced enemy fire. Enemy losses on those fronts were two trucks carrying personnel, an ammunition dump, and a number of trenches and foxholes.

On the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, the forces of Islam fired on a number of enemy vehicles on the supply axes opposite Naftshahr and Sumar and Qasr-e Shirin and Mehran, inflicting losses and casualties on the enemy and halting Iraqi vehicle movements on those axes.

On the southern fronts yesterday, the victorious forces of Islam defended their positions and fired on enemy positions and assembly areas, disrupting enemy engineering activities and vehicle movements, destroying several weapons emplacements, and killing or injuring at least 16 enemy personnel. West of the Arvand Rud, they destroyed more than 12 enemy trenches and foxholes, 3 observation posts, and a mortar launcher.

Yesterday, enemy fire destroyed six houses and shops in Abadan.

Jerusalem HQ Statements on Preparation for Action

LD031747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Statement issued by Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Jerusalem Headquarters]

[Excerpt] Following the recent guidelines issued by Imam Khomeyni, great leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander in chief, and following the important statement by his great eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, the Central Jerusalem Headquarters calls on the mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuver Battalions to prepare themselves to carry out the directives issued by the Central Jerusalem Headquarters, while continuing to maintain the necessary alertness.

The forces of Labbayk Ya Khomeyni, both the reserve and active battalions of the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers, are required to demonstrate during this blessed and destiny-making time the undiminishing might of dear Islam as well as organization and cohesion against global arrogance's threats and aggression, whether these are in the form of missile attacks, bombings, or other last-ditch measures by the enemies of Islam. Maintaining their fighting spirit, they must be fully prepared to engage in action, if called upon, to defend Islam and the Koran. They must be ready to safeguard the revolution and the beloved Islamic homeland.

The directives issued by the Central Jerusalem Headquarters will be communicated to the combatants through each base.

[Signed] Central Jerusalem Headquarters

Statement No 2

LD041327 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Statement No 2 issued by Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Jerusalem Headquarters]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The combative and brave nation of Islam, by relying upon the everlasting power of the Almighty God, is standing in the battle arena after 40 months of the war imposed by the Zionists and global arrogance against the Iranian Islamic revolution. Now, more resistant, steadfast, and alert than ever before, it is determined to continue its path until the final victory and overthrow of the criminal regime ruling over Baghdad. To carry out its sacred mission and its divine and national duty, it is going to make use of the very valuable experience gained during the 3 and 1/2 years of the relentless war against the enemies of Islam in the country's western and southern trenches.

The filthy global bloodsuckers, led by the criminal United States, and their mercenary agents, such as the Zionist regime of Baghdad, are incapable of appreciating the might and divine power of this brave nation. Therefore, by resorting to various threats, they intend to prevent our nation from continuing its righteous path. But the Muslim and combative nation of Iran is determined to repulse their aggression by turning schools, factories, farms, and every corner of this Islamic land into trenches for defending the revolution and will not rest until the aggression has been eradicated.

Following the previous statement and announcement of the need to put on full alert all mobilization forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the battalions for the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers, the Central Jerusalem Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps draws their attention to the following points:

All forces of the Labbayk-Ya Khomeyni project and the forces prepared to be dispatched for the second time, including those battalions participating in the exercise phase of the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers, and also the reserve battalions, must present themselves to Islamic Revolution Guards Corps bases all over the country between 5 and 8 February to be told about the task entrusted to them and for coordination in their missions. These forces must take part in the readiness programs organized by each base to raise their own combat capability, gain experience for participating in the exercise phase of the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers, and to prepare those groups of brothers who demand to be dispatched to the battlefronts.

In conclusion, the hezbollahi nation and the state establishments and organs are asked to offer every necessary assistance in the glorious organization of the exercise phase of the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers and in the dispatch of volunteer forces to the fronts. Only God grants success.

[Signed] Central Jerusalem Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Guards 10th District Calls Up Servicemen
LD031724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps 10th District issued a statement calling on all brothers who have taken part in the battlefronts of truth against falsehood but who have not beenallocated to Jerusalem battalions to present themselves to the mobilization centers of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the 10th District of Tehran Province so they can be sent to the battlefronts of light against darkness.

Volunteers From Esfahan Leave for War Front
GF031416 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] More than 3,000 volunteers from the Islamic revolution guards mobilization forces in Esfahan left for the front of the war of truth against falsehood. A special function was held in the city to bid them farewell, during which Esfahan Friday Imam Ayatollah Taheri spoke. The volunteers left for the war been imposed on the Islamic Revolution by the Iraqi regime, chanting religious slogans and revolutionary cries.

Late Item: President Responds to Iraqi Threat
GF061638 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] TEHRAN, Feb. 6, IRNA — Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i said in a counter-threat against the Baghdad regime here today that Iran would not hesitate to bombard the Iraqi cities of Basra, Khanaqin and Mandali in the event the Baghdad Government bombards Iran's cities.

The following is the text of the presidential message published here today.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful,

Our cities and civilian quarters have been continuously bombarded in dastardly attacks by the Iraqi forces. So far we have restricted our counter-attacks to the battlefields and have throughout the war abstained from indulging in retaliatory acts, a few days ago Saddam (Husayn) threatened to bombard several Iranian cities in continuation of his wonted threats.

I would like to declare here and now that from now on we will retaliate and that in the event he sould venture to implement his threat, we will certainly pound the cities of Khanaqin, Basra and Mandali.

I would like now to extend my most sincere apologies to the civilians in the said cities of Iraq and would hereby request them to vacate their home-towns immediately.

We cannot put up with the pain of having lost some 4,600 martyrs and seeing some 22,000 of our civilians wounded during the past 40 months of bombardment of our cities. Our people cannot any longer tolerate the dastardly massacres of their fellow-countrymen as have been so far done (by Iraqi forces).

Here again I would like to request our brothers-in-faith in the Iraqi cities of Basra, Khanaqin and Mandali to vacate those cities, since we will doubtless pound those cities in the event Saddam (Husayn) should venture to do according to his threat.